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REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are currently pending in this application. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-7, without prejudice, in response to a restriction requirement. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the above claim amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim that subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended claims 8-14 to more clearly recite a lead implant system including the recited stylet and guide wire. Applicants therefore respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner suggests that claims 8-14 might be anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,662,119 to Brennen et al. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Independent claim 8 recites lead implant system comprised in part by a guide wire that is slidably receivable through the longitudinally extending passage of the stylet, the combined stylet and guide wire being configured for slidable introduction into an elongated tubular lead body, and wherein the guide wire is configured for extension from a distal end of the stylet. (Underlining added for emphasis only). Applicants respectfully submit that Brennen et al. do not disclose or suggest the recited claim elements.

Rather the pull wire of Brennen et al. is fixedly attached to the distal end of the stylet which allows the pull wire to mechanically cooperate with the distal tip of the stylet to introduce a radius of curvature into the stylet through retraction of the pull wire. (Brennen et al., FIG. 1, col. 6, lines 18-21 and lines 25-32). Brennen et al. do not however disclose or suggest a guide wire that is slidably receivable through the longitudinally extending passage of the stylet as recited in claim 8 of the present invention.

Accordingly applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is novel and non-obvious over Brennen et al and is therefore allowable. Applicants further submit that claims 9-14 that depend from claim 8 are allowable as is claim 8 and for additional limitations recited therein.

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In light of the above claim amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice of allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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